KENTUCKY INSTITUTION

FOR

The Education of the Blind.

1856-7.

134

THIRTEENTH REPORT

(THIRD BIENNIAL REPORT)

OF THE

BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION

FOR THE

EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,

TO THE

General Assembly of Kentucky

FOR THE YEARS 1856–7.

FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY.
A. G. HODGES, PUBLIC PRINTER.
1857.

REPORT.

To the General Assembly of Kentucky:

The Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind respectfully present their Thirteenth Report.

The progress of the Institution, since our last report was presented, has, in most respects, been unusually gratifying.

The school has enjoyed, during the last two years, a new and more favorable location, and an edifice much more commodious than any it ever before occupied.

One of the results of the change of location has been what we anticipated, and indeed predicted in our last report to the Legislature—a large increase in the number of the pupils. In the two years preceding the removal of the school to the new edifice, the number of pupils was as follows: in the year 1854, *thirty;* in the year 1855, *thirty-eight.* Immediately after the removal, the number began to increase with unusual rapidity. In the first year after the removal, (1856) the number of pupils was 50—17 males and 33 females. In the second year, (1857) the number has risen to 75—28 males and 49 females—about twice the average number for several years prior to the change of location. The entire number of new pupils admitted into the Institution since the removal to the new building, is 55—22 males and 33 females. The number of blind persons connected with the Institution at the present time is 60—24 males and 36 females.

The prosperity of the Institution has been greatly promoted, during the last two years, in consequence of the act of the Legislature, at the last session, by which the annual allowance for the support and education of State pupils in this Institution was increased to one hundred and forty dollars—the same allowance that had for several years been made for the support of the State pupils in the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb.

By means of this addition to the income of the Institution, we have been enabled to supply some of those many urgent wants, alluded to in our last report, that had seriously retarded the prosperity of the school during its entire existence. We have, since the commencement of the present year, employed an additional teacher; have purchased a few maps, and some bedding and other plain furniture for the accommodation of new pupils; and have made greater efforts than ever before, to extend the benefits of the Institution to those more remote parts of the State that had not availed themselves of its privileges.

The benefits resulting from the expenditure are very perceptible in the increased number of the pupils, and their more rapid advancement

in their various studies. The interest and progress of the pupils generally in their studies, were never more satisfactory than under the very faithful and devoted teachers now employed in the Institution.

Many of the wants alluded to in our last report, still demand attention, as we have not been able to supply them without creating a debt that we had neither the right nor the inclination to impose upon the Institution. An organ, piano, maps, globes, and other school apparatus, as well as furniture for the dormitories and other rooms, are greatly needed; but we hope to be able, from year to year, gradually to supply these wants without soliciting from the Legislature aid for these purposes

The receipts of the Institution, to meet the ordinary expenses for the years 1856 and 1857, have been:

Annual appropriation, 1856,	$ 3,000,00
Allowance for beneficiaries, for 1856,	4,595 30
Annual appropriation, 1857,	3,000 00
Allowance for beneficiaries, 1857,	5,371 50
Balance in Treasury at date of last report,	1 68
	$15,968 48

The ordinary expenses of the Institution, for the same time, were:

For provisions and groceries, including soaps, candles, cow and horse feed, &c., in 1856,	$ 2,213 56	
Salaries of officers, 1856,	2,045 00	
Salary of physician from January 1st to October 1st, 1856,	112 50	
Medical attendance on C. Smith, by Dr. Steele,	25 00	
Medicines, &c., in 1855 and 1856,	82 52	
Provisions and groceries, including soap, candles, &c., from January 1st to December 1st, 1857,	2,015 98	
Salaries of officers, from January 1st to October 1st, 1857,	1,919 65	
Medical attendance, from October 1st, 1856, to December 31st, 1857,	99 50	
Wages of servants, gardener and laborer, 1856,	821 00	
Wages of servants and seamstress, 1857,	633 50	
Wages of gardener and laborer, 1857,	368 55	
Fuel in 1856 and 1857,	731 72	
Traveling expenses of pupils and wages of agent, 1856,	593 45	
Two horses in 1856, ($250,) 2 horse wagon, ($90,)	340 00	
Harness, chains, plows and horse shoeing,	55 25	
Rent of pasture in 1856,	9 00	
Ice, ($31 20,) pump, ($10,)	41 20	
Dry Goods, 1856,	287 43	
Clothing of servants and destitute pupils,	81 00	
Furniture in 1856 and 1857,	478 74	
Table cutlery, crockery ware, &c.,	166 94	
Cooking range, stoves, tin ware, &c.,	271 79	
Wages of agent in 1857,	450 00	
Funeral expenses of S. M. Clark,	25 00	
Dry goods, &c., 1857,	212 06	
Insurance 1856 and 1857,	553 00	
Horse and harness, 1857,	120 00	
Cart, scraper, &c.,	47 75	
Eight cows and calves,	280 00	
Sewing machine, stand, needles, &c.,	168 45	
Rent of Pope place,	150 00	
Grass seed, potatoes, garden seeds, &c.,	116 15	
Hardwares, &c.,	88 13	
Maps, books, slates, stationery, &c.,	178 18	
Conveyance of pupils to church 1855, 1856 and 1857,	177 75	
Balance in Treasury for ordinary expenses,	17 77	
	$15,968 48	$15,968 48

All the foregoing expenditures have been made by direction of the Board of Visitors. In accordance with the by-laws, adopted by the Board at the time the Institution was opened, in the year 1842, not a single dollar has been paid out of the Treasury without the approval of the Board and the endorsement of the President. We are, therefore, enabled to speak with confidence, as to the rigid economy practiced in all departments of the Institution. Vouchers for all the foregoing expenditures, though examined and approved by the Board before payment, have this day been very carefully re-examined and found to be correct, and to agree with the accounts of the Treasurer. These vouchers are in the hands of John Milton, Esq., Treasurer, ready to be sent herewith to the State Auditor.

The report of the Building Committee, which is herewith presented, as a part of this report, has been unanimously approved and adopted by this Board. The accounts and vouchers of the Building Committee have been carefully examined by the Board and found to be accurate, explicit and complete. The original bills for all material, labor, &c., paid for out of the building fund, are herewith reported to the State Auditor.

The vouchers for all money entrusted to, and expended by this Board, since the Institution was opened, in the year 1842, are in the hands of the Treasurer, and are at all times subject to the order of the General Assembly, and ready for examination by any legislative committee.

Since the removal of the school to the new edifice, which is more than two miles distant from most of the churches of the city, some conveyance is needed to enable the pupils, especially the girls and small boys, to attend religious service in the churches of their choice. As we have been prevented, by want of means, from purchasing the necessary carriages, an arrangement has been made with the proprietor of a line of omnibusses, to take the pupils to the city every Sunday morning and return with them in the evening. This arrangement proves quite pleasant and satisfactory for the present, but we intend, as soon as practicable, to purchase a car, or omnibus, in which the pupils can be conveyed to church on Sunday, and to concerts, lectures and other meetings during the week. Privileges of this kind are highly prized by the pupils, and as they greatly promote their mental and moral improvement and happiness, they ought not to be withheld.

It is worthy of remark, that the male pupils, in pleasant weather, generally prefer a walk to a ride, and often when invited to ride into the city, solicit permission to walk. There are but few boys in the school who cannot, without a guide, walk to any part of the city. They walk carefully, but as fearlessly as those who are blessed with eye-sight. While to some, who are unacquainted with the habits of

the educated blind, it may seem unsafe for a blind boy to walk, unattended, through the crowded streets of a large city, we are satisfied that to deprive them of this privilege, would not only greatly detract from their present happiness and vigor, but would prevent them from ever acquiring that independence so necessary to their success in life, and would expose them to far greater evils in the future, than they might possibly avoid in the present. The pupils of this Institution have been permitted for sixteen years to go unattended to all parts of the city and its vicinity, and as yet, no serious accident has happened to any of them.

In view of the utterly helpless and destitute condition of many blind children in Kentucky, we would earnestly renew a recommendation, heretofore made, that a small annual appropriation be made to this Institution, to enable the Board to furnish clothing for such blind children as are prevented from availing themselves of the privileges of the school by their inability to procure the necessary clothing. The sum required, though small, would, in our opinion, be productive of incalculable good to the most afflicted portion of the most unfortunate class of sufferers in the State.

That commendable law of the State, authorizing the officers of this Institution to present, in the name of the State, and at the expense of the Institution, a copy of the Bible, in raised letters, to every graduate of the school, makes a severe draft upon the Treasury of the Institution. The very great cost of books, maps, and other school apparatus for the blind, may be properly appreciated, when it is recollected that the price of a Bible, printed in raised letters, which (in proportion to its size,) is by far the cheapest book ever printed for the blind, is more than sixty times the price of an ordinary Bible printed for the seeing.

It affords us great pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the following very acceptable donations to that part of the library of the Institution, which is printed in the ordinary manner for persons with sight:

From Austin Dupuy, of Henry county, - - - -	$ 150 00
From C. F. Rogers, of Fayette county, - - - - - -	100 00
From Charles Ford, of Hawesville, - - - - - - - -	20 00
	$ 270 00

This sum has been expended in the purchase of well selected books, and we hope to be enabled, by the liberality of other friends of the school, to make, from time to time, additional purchases, until a very valuable and extensive library shall be collected for the use of the Institution. As the number of books printed in raised letters is very small, the pupils are dependent for much of their reading upon books printed in the ordinary manner, which are read to them daily by the officers of the Institution.

We also take great pleasure in acknowledging our obligations to Mr. J. M. Heady, a former pupil of this Institution, for a very large and valuable addition to that part of the library consisting of embossed books. A few years since, Mr Heady, being desirous that the blind should enjoy the privilege of reading with their own fingers the unequalled productions of the sightless but immortal bard of England, solicited from a few of the benevolent citizens of Kentucky, funds sufficient to print, in raised letters, Milton's Paradise Lost. To the funds obtained by Mr. Heady, Dr. Howe, of Boston, added sufficient to print Paradise Regained and the other poetical works of Milton; and thus, by the joint efforts of these two gentlemen, a small edition of Milton's complete poetical works was published about two years ago.

After paying for the printing of Paradise Lost, and furnishing institutions and individuals with the copies of the work for which they had subscribed, Mr. Heady had on hand more than a hundred copies of Paradise Lost, which, together with some other embossed books, he generously determined to present to this Institution, in consideration of the fact, that the funds to print the work had been contributed by citizens of the State of Kentucky. In pursuance of this determination, he presented to the Institution twenty-three bound copies of Paradise Lost, five copies of Milton's Complete Works, twelve smaller volumes, ninety unbound copies of Paradise Lost, and forty dollars in money, the proceeds of the sale of a few copies of Paradise Lost, to be expended in binding a portion of the unbound books, presented by him to the Institution. The amount thus contributed by Mr. Heady to the library of the Institution, is more than five hundred dollars—the largest donation ever made to the Institution, at one time, by one person.

To the benevolent gentlemen named above, and to all others who have contributed to the usefulness and advancement of the Institution, we tender our grateful acknowledgments.

We have, in our former reports to the Legislature, frequently alluded to the great want of books printed in raised letters, for the blind. Within the last few days we have been highly pleased to learn, that an effort has been recently commenced in one of our sister States, that promises to supply this pressing want, and, in a few years, to furnish a judicious and extensive selection of historical, scientific, poetical, and other useful books, printed in raised letters, for that unfortunate and interesting class, for whose benefit institutions similar to our own have been established in most of the States of the Union.

Mr. D. Sherrod, a highly respectable blind gentleman, has succeeded in obtaining an appropriation from the Legislature of the State of Mississippi, and considerable donations from the citizens of that

State, to establish a national house, to print books in raised letters for the blind.

The charter granted by the State of Mississippi provides, that this house shall be located in Louisville, Kentucky, and Mr. Sherrod is at present on a visit to this State to procure the incorporation of a board of trustees, to conduct the business of the establishment. He also proposes to visit in person, or by agents, the Legislatures and private citizens of the other States in the Union, to solicit appropriations and donations in aid of this noble enterprise, and to procure the incorporation of a Board of Trustees in each State, to receive and forward to the publishing board in Kentucky, such donations as may be made to this object by the Legislature and citizens.

Inasmuch as the blind in Kentucky will receive their full share of the benefits of this praiseworthy and benevolent undertaking, and as the State of Mississippi has already made a liberal appropriation in aid of it, and as the other States will, without doubt, make similar appropriations, we respectfully recommend that an appropriation be made to it by the Legislature of Kentucky, in which the institution is to be located.

The enterprise has the cordial approval of this Board, and we commend Mr. Sherrod to the members of the Legislature as a worthy and intelligent gentleman, well qualified for the great and philanthropic work in which he is engaged.

Since our last report was presented to the Legislature, Mr. Otis Patten, who was for several years engaged as a teacher in this school, has been employed to visit many parts of the State most remote from the Institution, to awaken an interest in the education of the blind, and induce these unfortunate children to avail themselves of the inestimable privileges that are freely offered to them by the wisdom and liberality of the Legislature and people of Kentucky. He visited one-half the counties of the State, and found nearly one hundred blind children and youth of suitable age to enter school. Many of these he induced to apply for admission into the Institution, and many others, it is hoped, will do so before they become too old to be received.

We deem it our duty to allude, once more, to the neglect of the Commissioners of Tax to ascertain and return, according to law, the names, ages and post-offices of the blind, in their respective counties. As evidence of this neglect, and of the general inaccuracy of the returns of the Commissioners, we may state, that of fifty pupils in the Institution in 1856, only eight are reported by the Commissioners of that year—and those eight only partially and inaccurately reported. Of seventy-five pupils in the Institution in 1857, only fifteen are reported by the Commissioners in 1856 and 1857. Of several hundred

blind pupils connected with the Institution during the sixteen years of its existence, only twenty-six are reported by the Commissioners in 1856, and twenty-five in 1857.

The only county in which the Commissioners made accurate returns, including names, ages and post-offices, in 1856 and 1857, is Franklin. In consequence of the faithfulness of the Commissioners in that county, all the blind reported by them in the last two years are now enjoying the privileges of the Institution, as pupils. Were the Commissioners in the other counties of Kentucky equally attentive to the duties prescribed for them by the Legislature, the same pleasing result might be anticipated in all parts of the State.

In the year 1848, a small shop was erected for the accommodation of the mechanical department of the Institution, and was used for that purpose, until the removal of the school from that location in 1851, after the destruction of the main building by fire. A building was rented for the work department, during the next four years and until the removal of the school to the building now occupied. For the first eighteen months after the removal, it was not practicable to rent a shop, and not having the means to erect one, the work in the mechanical department was necessarily suspended.

In addition to the want of a shop, a stable and pasture for the cows and horses belonging to the Institution, were greatly needed. Early in the present year we had a favorable opportunity to supply all these wants, by renting, on reasonable terms, the property of Wm. H. Pope, Esq., adjoining the lot of the Institution, on the west.. This place contains about eighteen acres, including an extensive, fertile, and well watered pasture, an orchard, stable and buildings for the accommodation of the mechanical department and gardener.

In these buildings the work department has been re-opened, on a plan somewhat more satisfactory than that upon which it was formerly conducted. Mr. Martin, a graduate of this Institution, who was for some years employed as foreman in the work department, has taken charge of the shops on his own responsibility, purchasing the materials, paying the pupils for extra work, and receiving the profits of the department. In consideration of Mr. Martin's services as teacher of the pupils in the various kinds of handicraft, the Institution furnishes the shops free of rent, boards the pupils connected with the work department, and has loaned to him, on good security, the small balance on hand December 31st, 1855, on account of the work department, to enable him to purchase materials, &c., and commence the enterprise under more favorable auspices. The pecuniary result, so far as the Institution is concerned, will not be materially different from what it has been heretofore, while the profits to the foreman will, it is hoped, be at least equal to the small salary formerly paid to him. The su-

perintendent of the Institution, of course, still has the supervision of the work department and the boys engaged in it, as heretofore.

The articles manufactured by the boys, are, as in former years, brooms, brushes and mattresses. The girls sew, knit, and manufacture a variety of fancy articles. No teacher of handicraft has been employed for the female pupils for several years; but, since the commencement of the present session, the matron has devoted to their instruction in sewing, &c., a part of each afternoon, with pleasing results.

Since we secured the use of the pasture, already alluded to in this report, a sufficient number of cows have been kept upon the place to supply the pupils with an abundance of milk, and furnish a considerable quantity of butter.

A garden has been laid out and successfully cultivated, during the two seasons that have passed since the removal of the school to the new edifice. The products of this garden and of that upon the rented place have been, one hundred and twenty barrels of Irish potatoes, eight barrels of sweet potatoes, three hundred cabbages, and a great variety of other vegetables, as well as fruits, consisting in part of beets, parsnips, tomatoes, asparagus, okra, peas, beans, corn, grapes, strawberries, raspberries, peaches, apples and quinces.

The health of the pupils, generally, has been remarkably good during the last two years. Until the first day of October, 1856, we had for several years paid a physician a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars, for medical attendance upon the pupils, but, after the removal of the school to the new location, learning that the calls upon the physician were much less frequent than formerly, we deemed it advisable to discontinue the salary of the physician and to pay him three dollars for each visit—the usual price paid to the physicians of Louisville for visiting patients in the vicinity of the Institution. The result has been, as we anticipated, a considerable diminution of the amount paid for medical attendance. From October 1st, 1856 to the date of this report, a period of fifteen months, the physician's bill has amounted to but $90 50, less than one-half the salary formerly paid for the same length of time. And we may add, that the greater part of the physician's bill for the last fifteen months, has been for attendance upon a single pupil, who entered the Institution some years ago, in very poor health, and who, from year to year, has required more attention from the physician than all the other pupils.

But while we make the foregoing statement as to the health of the pupils generally, it is our painful duty to report the death of one of the most promising pupils since the commencement of the present year. Miss Sarah M. Clark, of Marshall county, an amiable and interesting young lady, of very remarkable promise, as a vocalist, died on

the 12th day of January, 1857, after a short illness, contracted during the previous vacation, while on a visit to some of her schoolmates in Carter county. Funeral services were held in the chapel of the Institution, in the presence of the pupils, who followed her remains to Cave Hill Cemetery, where we have secured a beautiful lot for the interment of such pupils as may close their earthly course while connected with the Institution.

But while we record, with sincere sorrow, the loss of this interesting pupil, it becomes us to acknowledge with gratitude, the kindness of that Providence that has so long watched over and protected the lives of the pupils of our Institution, from which only three pupils have been removed by death during the sixteen years of its existence.

We are here painfully reminded of the death of Mrs. Mary Earle Patten, wife of B. M. Patten, Esq., the able and faithful superintendent of our Institution. She departed this life, after a short illness, on the 13th day of August, 1856. To the officers and pupils of the Institution, Mrs. Patten's death was a most severe and incalculable loss. Although not employed as a teacher or officer of the Institution, yet her kindly and generous sympathies were ever extended to its blind and helpless inmates, and she received in return their heartfelt gratitude and love. To them, in their bereaved and lonely condition, she occupied the endearing relations of mother, sister and friend. Her intercourse with them was so gentle and affectionate, that though separated from family and friends they realized all the endearments of home. No one was more earnestly devoted to the interests of the Institution, or contributed more to the happiness of its unfortunate inmates, than this lovely and noble woman, and we feel that we cannot do less than pay this humble tribute to her memory.

Respectfully submitted.

At a meeting of the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, held on the 30th day of December, 1857, the foregoing Report was adopted, as the Thirteenth Report of the Board to the General Assembly of Kentucky.

LOUISVILLE, December 30th, 1857.

WM. F. BULLOCK, *President.*

BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.*

BOARD OF VISITORS.

WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, *President.*
THEODORE S. BELL.
LEWIS RUFFNER.
BLAND BALLARD.
ROBERT J. BRECKINRIDGE.
WILLIAM S. BODLEY.
WILLIAM GARNETT.

JOHN MILTON, *Treasurer.*

BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.*

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BRYCE M. PATTEN,
DIRECTOR.

MISS SUSAN M. WELD,
TEACHER.

MISS MARY I. WELD,
TEACHER.

JOSEPH B. SMITH,
TEACHER OF MUSIC.

MRS. MARY H. PARIS,
MATRON.

WILLIAM MARTIN,
FOREMAN IN MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT.

ROBERT C. HEWETT,
PHYSICIAN.

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS FOR THE YEAR 1856.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
Eliza L. Allen,	Larue county.
Martha J. Arnold,	Franklin county.
Lucy C. Boyd,	Caldwell county.
Robert Briggs,	Campbell county.
Mary J. Buckner.	Louisville.
Angelina Clark,	Edmonson county.
Margaret R. Clark,	Marshall county.
Sarah M. Clark,	Marshall county.
Mary Cline,	Louisville.
Mary Costello,	Louisville.
Rachel M. Davis,	Taylorsville.
Frances A. Dupuy,	Henry county.
Lucinda Durning,	Louisville.
Ellen Emmons,	Louisville.
Mary S. Edwards,	Logan county.
Lucy J. Edwards,	Logan county.
Sarah J. Fitch,	Lewis county.
Reuben Gill,	Covington.
Bettie Henning,	Louisville.
Thomas J. Hill,	Woodford county.
Wealthy J. Hill,	Woodford county.
Elizabeth Jasper,	Washington county.
Samuel T. Johnson,	Lewis county.
Henry L. Kidd,	Lexington.
Caroline M. Kouns,	Carter county.
Emily L. Kouns,	Carter county.
Susan H. Krusor,	Lexington.
Reuben M'Clanahan,	Logan county.
Richard Meade,	Greenup county.
Isaac S. Morris,	Frankfort.
Sidney C. Nance,	Paducah.
Susan F. Oots,	Anderson county.
Philip T. Patterson,	Grayson county.
Milton D. Peters,	Aberdeen, Mississippi.
Simeon Peyton,	Lincoln county.
Rebecca Rogers,	Fayette county.
Mary J. Sadler,	Jefferson county.
Catherine Salmon,	Louisville.
Elizabeth Shevels,	Hawesville.
James Shevels,	Hawesville.
Robert M. Shevels,	Hawesville.
Nancy C. Shields,	Washington county.
Robert M. Short,	McLean county.
Christiana Smidt,	Louisville.
Martha Swope,	Lagrange.
Zenobia Toms,	Washington county.
William D. Toole,	Owen county.
Richard S. Vaughn,	Bullitt county.
Mary Williams,	Greenup county.
William W. Wight,	Owen county.

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS FOR THE YEAR 1857.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
Eliza L. Allen,	Larue county.
Martha J. Arnold,	Franklin county.
Susan M. Barnard,	Nelson county.
Sarah N. Beauchamp,	Nelson county.
Jacob Bogard,	Hardin county.
Lucy C. Boyd,	Caldwell county.
Ella Bransom,	Franklin county.
Robert Briggs,	Campbell county.
Mary J. Buckner,	Louisville.
Angelina Clark,	Edmondson county.
Sarah M. Clark,*	Marshall county.
Elizabeth J. Clay,	Johnson county.
Martha Clay,	Johnson county.
William Clay,	Johnson county.
Mary Cline,	Louisville.
Martha A. Coker,	Calloway county.
John Colville,	Covington.
Susan Conner,	Larue county.
Mary Costello,	Louisville.
Josephine Daily,	Fayette county.
Elizabeth Dale,	Russellville.
Rachael M. Davis,	Taylorsville.
William Day,	Rowan county.
Michael Dorr,	Covington.
Frances A. Dupuy,	Henry county.
Lucinda Durning,	Louisville.
Ellen Emmons,	Louisville.
Reuben Gill,	Covington.
Cynthia A. Green,	Franklin county.
Elizabeth Green,	Franklin county.
Catharine M. Hardin,	Davis county.
John C. Hardin,	Davis county.
Bettie Henning,	Louisville.
Thomas J. Hill,	Woodford county.
Wealthy J. Hill,	Woodford county.
Daniel Hoskins,	Estill county.
Nancy Hoskins,	Estill county.
Elizabeth Jasper,	Washington county.
Samuel T. Johnson,	Lewis county.
Henry L. Kidd,	Lexington.
Caroline M. Kouns,	Carter county.
Emily L. Kouns,	Carter county.
Susan H. Krusor,	Lexington.
Reuben M'Clanahan,	Logan county.
Richard Meade,	Greenup county.
Joseph P. Mitchell,	Owensboro.
Isaac S. Morris,	Frankfort.
Susan F. Oots,	Anderson county.
Philip T. Patterson,	Grayson county.
Simeon Peyton,	Lincoln county.
John Porter,	Louisville.
Mary G. Porter,	Louisville.
Virginia Porter,	Louisville.
Nancy Prewitt,	Russell county.
George W. Robertson,	Barren county.
Tapley Robertson,	Batren county.
Rebecca Rogers,	Lexington.

* Deceased.

LIST OF PUPILS 1857—CONTINUED.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE
Mary J. Sadler,	Jefferson county.
Catharine Salmon,	Louisville.
Elizabeth Shevels,	Hawesville.
James Shevels,	Hawesville.
Robert Shevels,	Hawesville.
Nancy C. Shields,	Washington county.
Robert M. Short,	McLean county.
Christiana Smidt,	Louisville.
Martha Swope,	Lagrange.
Thomas M. Swift,	Newport.
John Summers,	Elizabethtown.
William D. Toole,	Owen county.
Zenobia Toms,	Washington county.
Richard S. Vaughan,	Bullitt county.
Malvina Wallace,	Henry county.
Mary S. Wallace,	Henry county.
Susan M. Ward,	Washington county.
Mary Williams,	Greenup county.

TERMS OF ADMISSION.

To the Friends of the Blind in Kentucky:

The Kentucky Institution for the Blind has been in successful operation, under the superintendence of the undersigned, for nearly sixteen years. It is under the management of a Board of Visitors, consisting of several of the most enlightened and benevolent citizens of the State, some of whom have been members of the Board ever since the origin of the Institution, in the year 1842.

The Institution was established by the Legislature, for the instruction of those children who are blind, and for those whose sight is so imperfect, that they cannot see to read. All such children, of suitable age and of good moral character, are received and educated at the expense of the Institution, which is a State school, equally free to the rich and the poor.

The pupils are instructed in vocal and instrumental music, and in the branches usually taught in public schools and academies for seeing pupils. The boys are also taught mechanical trades, to enable them to support themselves independently after leaving the Institution.

The pupils, generally, are very happy and industrious, and many of them make wonderful advancement n their studies, and qualify themselves to be teachers of music, mathematics and other branches of learning.

The Legislature provides for the board and tuition of the children of Kentucky. Pupils from other States pay one hundred and forty dollars a year.

The annual school session commences on the 20th day of September, and terminates on the 15th day of July. It is very desirable that pupils should enter at the commencement of the session, but *new* pupils will be received at any time during the session.

Persons desiring to send children to this school, will please to send the name, age and post-office address of the applicant to the undersigned, who will, at all times, cheerfully communicate any necessary information pertaining to the Institution.

B. M. PATTEN, *Director.*

REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Visitors:

The Committee to whom you entrusted the management of the erection of the buildings of the Institution, and the improvement of the grounds, respectfully present the following report, embracing the history of the building operations for the years 1856 and 1857.

The receipts for the building, &c., during the last two years, have been as follows:

Appropriation by the Legislature of Kentucky,		$20,000 00

The expenditures have been as follows:

Carpenter work,	$ 2,819 84	
Hand-rails and banisters,	247 05	
Lumber,	2,706 51	
Painting, ($262 81,) paints, oils, &c., ($313 14,)	675 95	
Plumbing, gas-pipe, water pipe, &c.,	807 83	
Iron girders, ($132 63,) grates, for cellar windows, &c., ($137 79,)	270 42	
Locks, bells, pulleys, sash weights, nails, hinges, &c.,	1,462 14	
Working plans, &c.,	591 50	
Roofing-tin, copper, and galvinized iron,	525 32	
Roofing, cornice and water-spouts,	486 00	
Lightning-rods,	69 00	
Plastering and terra-cotta work,	1,506 94	
Amounts carried forward,	$12,168 50	$20,000 00

Amounts brought forward,	$12,168 50	$20,000 00
Bricks, ($422 60,) bricklaying, ($300 50,)	723 10	
Lime, ($60,) caps and bases for columns, ($40 83,)	100 83	
Cut stone work,	2,780 85	
Fence, glass, oven, advertising, &c., &c.,	288 14	
Excavations for sewer, ($98 55,) building sewer, ($398 75,)	497 30	
Foundation for steps and portico,	302 50	
Grading, trees, and planting trees,	1,409 07	
Four cisterns and filters,	1,065 35	
Cash to Building Committee due December 31st, 1855,	653 99	
Balance of building fund in Treasury,	10 37	
	$20,000 00	$20,000 00

For all money disbursed by the Building Committee, for the purposes named above, we herewith present, as a part of this report, explicit vouchers, to which we invite your careful inspection. A report from John Milton, Esq., treasurer of the Institution, stating the amount of building fund received by him and expended by the Building Committee, is also herewith laid before you.

Messrs. Breden & Garnett, Irvine, Dix, Smith & Gregory furnished the lumber, and the carpenter work was done by Messrs. Wohltman, Frey, &c The painting was done by Messrs. Springer & Livingston. The paints, oils, &c., were furnished by Messrs. Bell & Talbot, and Messrs. Wilson, Waters & Co. The plumbing in the kitchen, laundry and bed-rooms was executed by Messrs. T. Williams & Co., who also laid the pipes conducting to the cisterns and sewer—a portion of said pipe being furnished by Mr. G. Meadows. Mr. C. S. Snead furnished grates for the cellar windows; Messrs. Baker & Gault the iron girders; Mr. A. C. Harig the locks, bells and hinges; Mr. Semple the pulleys, &c.; Mr. Belknap and Mr. McBride the nails, sash-weights, &c.; Messrs. Wallace, Lithgow & Co. the roofing-tin, copper and galvanized iron The roofing-tin was laid by Messrs. Johnson & McAllister; the lightning-rods were put up by Mr. C. Carder; the bricks were furnished by Mr. Ehrer, and laid by Messrs. Hooton, Payne & Davis.

Twenty-five rooms and two large halls, in the first and third stories, have been plastered since the last report was presented, by Mr. P. Bannon, who also executed the terra-cotta work. The plastering, interior painting, and some other parts of the work, were done in the vacations, so that the health of the pupils was not endangered, nor the exercises of the school interrupted by the work.

All the rooms and passages in the first story have been finished, and the rooms in the third story have been fitted up for dormitories, though they are not fully completed. The three ventilating cupolas and dome have been erected and finished. All the floors have been laid in the fourth story, and the rooms can be made ready for occupancy at small expense, whenever the increase in the number of pupils shall require additional dormitories.

A large amount of stone work, including all work of this kind embraced in the plan of the building, not heretofore executed, has been completed since the last report was presented. The extensive front steps, leading into the principal story of the edifice, the platforms, buttresses, ashlers, and five flights of steps leading into the first story, have been built of a very superior kind of stone, by Mr. M. Fillion, who has fulfilled his contract in such a manner as to secure the highest approval of the Committee, and of every one who examines the work. The outside steps, leading to the cellar, the coal-slides and the stone grate frames for the cellar windows, were executed by Mr. A. D. Tichenor, in a satisfactory manner. The stone foundation for the portico was built, in a very substantial manner, by Mr. J. G. Lyons.

Most of the interior and exterior wood work of the building has received but two coats of paint, and the exterior work, especially, requires an additional coat to protect it from injury, by exposure to the weather.

Water-closets are needed for night use, and for the accommodation of the sick, as must be perfectly apparent to all who consider the helpless condition of the pupils of the Institution. Outside shutters would add greatly to the comfort of the inmates, at all seasons of the year. But the most urgent want is that of heating apparatus. The safety of the pupils, and even of the building itself, requires that the stoves, at present in use, should be removed, and that a more safe, neat and economical mode of warming the house, should be introduced. In a building occupied by the blind, the danger to be apprehended from the use of stoves or grates, is much greater than in one occupied by seeing persons, and the original plan of the building contemplated the introduction of steam-heating apparatus—the stoves being used as a temporary expedient.

The Building Committee, in accordance with the instructions of your Board, have given much attention, during the last year, to the grading of the grounds of the Institution, in order to secure thorough drainage. The original condition of the grounds, made very heavy and expensive grading absolutely necessary for the comfort and health of the inmates of the Institution. All parts of the lot have been completely graded, except that part used by the female pupils as a play-ground, lying east of the main edifice. The grading, so far as completed, is entirely satisfactory, adding greatly to the beauty of the grounds and to the comfort and safety of the pupils. Those parts of the lot that were finished in season last spring, were sown with grass-seed, and already beautiful grassy lawns afford a soft carpet for the sports of merry blind children, and promise profitable crops of hay from year to year.

A gravel road, from the edifice to the Shelby road, and various walks for the use of the pupils, are greatly needed; but we have been compelled to postpone these improvements until the funds of the Institution shall justify the expense thereof.

The most hilly portion of the grounds towards the north, has been properly graded and planted with valuable fruit trees, consisting of the most approved varieties of apple, pear, quince, plum, apricot, nectarine and cherry trees, which will, it is believed, in a few years, furnish to the Institution an abundant supply of the most desirable fruit. These trees have been tastefully planted, in groups, in such a manner as to render that portion of the grounds one of the most beautiful, as it will, without doubt, become one of the most profitable parts of of the lot

The Building Committee take pleasure in stating, that the Institution is indebted for these fruit trees, and for many of the evergreens, and other ornamental trees that have been planted upon the lot, to the liberality of that never-tiring friend of the school, James W. Henning, Esq., who ever greatly enhances the value of his favors by the generous manner in which he confers them. On this, as on former occasions, he authorized the superintendent to order from the extensive nurseries of Messrs. Hobbs & Walker, without expense to the Institution, such trees (without limit as to quality or quantity,) as he deemed desirable for the grounds of the Institution.

The superintendent has planted upon the lot several hundred shade and ornamental trees, evergreen and deciduous—most of the latter being from the forests in the vicinity of the Institution. These trees were planted with very great care, and they have lived and flourished, although some of them were evergreens nearly twenty feet in height.

A garden has been laid out and planted, at considerable expense, and a sufficient quantity of strawberry and grape vines, raspberry, canes, &c., &c., have been planted.

In order to avoid the necessity of surface drainage from the laundry, kitchens, bath-rooms, water-closets, &c., the Building Committee, by direction of your Board, caused to be constructed a large sewer in the rear of the building, into which all the waste water from the various parts of the house, is readily conducted by iron and lead pipes. This sewer is three hundred and nineteen feet in length, and of sufficient height and width to enable a man to pass through it from one end to the other, and remove any obstruction that may possibly, at any time, prevent the free passage of the water. The sewer was built in a very substantial manner, by Mr. J. G. Lyons. This work, though expensive, was rendered absolutely necessary, by the nature of the ground upon which the Institution is located. The sewer and the grading will make the drainage of the grounds, in all respects, very perfect.

A substantial but cheap fence has been built on the eastern boundary of the lot, and the old fences in front of the Institution, and on the northern and western boundaries have been repaired for present use; but, as these fences are very old and afford only uncertain protection to valuable trees, and other property pertaining to the Institution, the Committee recommend that the entire lot should be securely enclosed, as soon as practicable.

Four large cisterns, containing in the aggregate twenty-three hundred barrels, have been built in the rear of the building. These cisterns are supplied by the extensive roof of the house with an abundance of good water, which, by filters, is rendered as agreeable and healthful as the purest spring water.

In prosecuting the important work assigned to us, we have, at all times, endeavored to conform strictly to the instructions of your Board, and now, at the end of five years from the time of our appointment, we trust that our efforts have not been in vain. No difference of opinion, in regard to the building and other improvements, so far as we recollect, has ever arisen between your Board and the Building Committee. In no single instance have the Trustees disapproved of the manner in which the Committee discharged the duties assigned to them. The labors of the Committee have been arduous, but they have been, at all times, cheered and lightened by faithful supervision, judicious counsel, uniform confidence, and kind approval of the Board of Visitors.

LEWIS RUFFNER,
B. M. PATTEN,
Building Committee.

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,
Louisville, December 23d, 1857.